

This is an official
DHEC Health Advisory

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Public Health Surveillance and Disease Control for Evacuees from Areas Affected by Hurricane Katrina

Reportable Conditions

South Carolina DHEC will conduct surveillance for diseases and outbreaks in the evacuees using the established DHEC Disease Reporting System. Attached is a list of numbers where each Public Health Region and the DHEC state office, the Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology, can be reached during regular working hours and also by pagers and answering services on nights, weekends, and holidays.

DHEC Regional Epidemiology staff will also work with shelters to establish a system for monitoring and reporting disease syndromes in each facility. This system will include monitoring rates of symptoms of gastrointestinal and respiratory diseases, and febrile and rash illnesses, etc.

Reporting of outbreaks/clusters of cases is consistent with South Carolina Law requiring the reporting of diseases and conditions to your state or local public health department. (State Law # 44-29-10 and Regulation # 61-20) as per the DHEC 2004 List of Reportable Conditions available at:

http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable_conditions.pdf

Federal HIPAA legislation allows disclosure of protected health information, without consent of the individual, to public health authorities to collect and receive such information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease. (HIPAA 45 CFR §164.512).

Tuberculosis

The State TB Controllers of Alabama, Louisiana, and Mississippi have asked for assistance from states receiving evacuees. SC DHEC will assess patients who need to continue TB Control services and coordinate with the TB Registries in the patient's home state to obtain medical information.

DHEC is asking that in the course of assessing and triaging evacuees that you identify those who are currently supposed to be taking medications for TB. These patients should be reported to the DHEC TB Division at 803-898-0558 and ask for a Central Case Register staff person. After hours, the information may be reported to the attached Epidemiology Disease Reporting number for the county in which the evacuee has been sheltered or hospitalized. The following information is needed when making the referral to DHEC:

- Patient demographics: name, race, sex, date of birth; parents name if patient is a minor
- Home address and where they received their TB services
- Current locating and contact information

HIV Care and Treatment Services

DHEC will assist in linking persons with HIV to the SC HIV care providers in the area where they are sheltered or hospitalized. These services will include emergency provision of HIV medications for persons currently enrolled in the AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP) in Louisiana, Mississippi, or

Alabama. Patients may be referred directly to the HIV care system through the numbers on the web site or contact DHEC at the following numbers to assist in linking patients for care.

Information needed to refer patients:

- Patient demographics: name, race, sex, date of birth; parents name if patient is a minor
- Home address and where they received their HIV services
- Current locating and contact information

The following web site lists the "What to do Next" information for accessing HIV care in South Carolina.
<http://www.scdhec.net/health/disease/stdhiv/docs/cr-00360.pdf>

Additional information and referral assistance is available from the DHEC STD/HIV Division from the following staff:

Joanne La Fontaine:	803-898-0752
Lynda Kettinger:	803-898-0625
Norene O'Donnell:	803-898-0198
Melissa Villnow:	803-896-3844 or
AIDS/STD Hotline:	1-800-322-AIDS (2437)

The S.C. AIDS/STD Hotline 1-800-322-AIDS (2437) is a statewide toll-free service to answer questions pertaining to STDs and HIV/AIDS, and South Carolina resources for prevention and care services.

SHARING (Statewide HIV/AIDS Resources and Information Network Guide) is a guide to available HIV prevention, care, and supportive services. SHARING is available through the AIDS/STD Hotline 1-800-322-AIDS or by going to the following website: <http://www.scdhec.net/health/disease/stdhiv/sharing.htm>

CDC References for Disasters and Communicable Disease Information for Health Care Professionals

- General information regarding hurricane-related Information for Health Care Professionals can be found at the following Centers for Disease Control website:
<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/hcp.asp>
- Recent updates include Infection control prevention guidance for community shelters following disasters:
<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/pdf/commshelters.pdf>

Public Health Offices

Mail or call reports to the Epidemiology/Disease Report Office in the appropriate county listed below.

Region 1

(Anderson, Oconee)

220 McGee Road
Anderson, SC 29625
Phone: (864) 231-1966
Fax: (864) 260-5623
Nights / Weekends: 1-(866)-298-4442

(Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Saluda)

PO Box 3227
1736 S. Main Street
Greenwood, SC 29646
Phone: 1-888-218-5475
Fax: (864) 942-3690
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-420-1915

Region 2

(Cherokee, Spartanburg, Union)

PO Box 4217
151 E. Wood Street
Spartanburg, SC 29305-4217
Phone: (864) 596-2227 ext. 210
Fax: (864) 596-3443
Nights / Weekends: (864) 809-3825

(Greenville, Pickens)

PO Box 2507
200 University Ridge
Greenville, SC 29602-2507
Phone: (864) 282-4139
Fax: (864) 282-4373
Nights / Weekends: (864) 460-5355 or
1-800-993-1186

Region 3

(Chester, Lancaster, York)

PO Box 817
1833 Pageland Highway
Lancaster, SC 29721
Phone: (803) 286-9948
Fax: (803) 286-5418
Nights / Weekends: 1-(866)-867-3886 or
1-(888)-739-0748

(Fairfield, Lexington, Newberry, Richland)

2000 Hampton Street
Columbia, SC 29204
Phone: (803) 576-2749
Fax: (803) 576-2993
Nights / Weekends: (803) 304-4252

Region 4

(Clarendon, Kershaw, Lee, Sumter)

PO Box 1628
105 North Magnolia Street
Sumter, SC 29150
Phone: (803) 773-5511
Fax: (803) 773-6366
Nights / Weekends: 1-(877)-831-4647

(Chesterfield, Darlington, Dillon, Florence, Marlboro, Marion)

145 E. Cheves Street
Florence, SC 29506
Phone: (843) 661-4830
Fax: (843) 661-4859
Nights / Weekends: (843) 660-8145

Region 5

(Aiken, Allendale, Barnwell)

1680 Richland Avenue, W. Suite 40
Aiken, SC 29801
Phone: (803) 642-1618
Fax: (803) 643-8386
Nights / Weekends: (803) 827-8668 or
1-800-614-1519

Region 5 (cont.)

(Bamberg, Calhoun, Orangeburg)

PO Box 1126
1550 Carolina Avenue
Orangeburg, SC 29116
Phone: (803) 533-7199
Fax: (803) 536-9118
Nights / Weekends: (803) 954-8513

Region 6

(Georgetown, Horry, Williamsburg)

2830 Oak Street
Conway, SC 29526-4560
Phone: (843) 365-3126
Fax: (843) 365-3153
Nights / Weekends: (843) 381-6710

Region 7

(Berkeley, Charleston, Dorchester)

4050 Bridge View Drive, Suite 600
N. Charleston, SC 29405
Phone: 843-746-3806
Fax: (843) 746-3851
Nights / Weekends: (843) 219-8470

Region 8

(Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, Jasper)

1235 Lady's Island Drive
Port Royal, SC 29935
Phone: (843) 525-7603
Fax: (843) 525-7621
Nights / Weekends: 1-800-614-4698

Bureau of Disease Control

Acute Disease Epidemiology Division
1751 Calhoun Street
Box 101106
Columbia, SC
Phone: (803) 898-0861
Fax: (803) 898-0897
Nights / Weekends: 1-888-847-0902

Categories of Health Alert messages:

Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.
Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.
Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; unlikely to require immediate action.